

Remarks

Claims 1-4 and 6-13 are pending.

In response to paragraph 3 of the Official Action, Applicant has corrected the informality raised by the Examiner with respect to claim 13.

All pending claims stand rejected as obvious over Campbell, Herrod, Flesher and Gutmann. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are not obvious over the cited references.

As amended, claim 1 is directed to an Open System Interconnection (OSI) model having a transport layer represented by a user datagram protocol (UDP). A first broadband interface unit (BIntU) transceiver is associated with a broadband network system that includes a data distribution center coupled over a network to a network access point. A personal computer with a computer processor is separate from the first BIntU transceiver, and the first BIntU transceiver is positioned between the network access point and the personal computer. The first BIntU transceiver is responsive to function calls from the personal computer, and is configured to generate UDP packets in the first BIntU transceiver and transmit the UDP packets over the network solely at or below the transport layer. A transmitter portion of the first BIntU transceiver encodes, with an encoder, audio or video information, within the first BIntU transceiver in order to generate UDP frame information, temporarily stores the UDP frame information solely at or below the transport layer as a UDP packet within a protocol stack, transmits the UDP packet directly from the protocol stack to the network access point at, or below, the transport layer, and transmits the UDP packet from the network access point to the data distribution center at, or below, the transport layer. Significantly, the UDP information

output by the encoder travels from the encoder to the stack and from the stack to the network access point solely at, or below, the transport layer and without being processed by the computer processor in the personal computer.¹ The first BIntU transceiver is configured to interface with the data distribution center or a second BIntU transceiver to indicate when UDP packets transmitted from the first BIntU transceiver to the data distribution center or the second BIntU transceiver are being received.

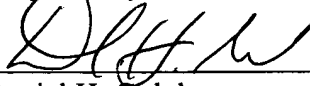
It is respectfully submitted that the cited references fail to show or suggest a configuration where UDP information output by the audio/video encoder travels from the encoder to the stack and from the stack to the network access point solely at, or below, the transport layer and without being processed by the computer processor in the personal computer, as recited in each of the pending independent claims.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims define over the cited references and are therefore allowable. A Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited.

¹ Support for this limitation may be found, for example, at p. 19, lines 2-5, p. 35, line 21 – page 36, line 14 and p. 58, lines 3-6.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees due in connection with this filing, including any fees for extra claims, to Deposit Account 50-0310. A duplicate of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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